

Mr. Ralph Temple
ACLU
1345 E St., NW
Wash., D.C. 20004

Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
7/14/78

Dear Mr. Temple,

Jim Lesar, my friend and counsel in a number of FOIA cases, has sent me a copy of his 7/10/78 letter to you in which he quotes me accurately. I write for different and separate purposes.

The first is to let you know that if you have need for any subject matter expertise or information in connection with any aspect of Mr. Lesar's letter or enclosures, I can provide it.

The second is to let the ACLU know that the House assassins also got James Earl Ray to sign a waiver including me. I conducted the investigations that led to the successful habeas corpus effort and for the two weeks of evidentiary hearing in Ray v Rose of October 1974. If as I do not now expect the committee also tries to subpoena my records, which are considerably more extensive than Mr. Lesar's, I would like to be able to ask the ACLU for assistance.

In the summer of 1966 I did approach the ACLU for assistance in obtaining suppressed records relating to the investigation of President Kennedy. David Isbell took parts of several days to go to the National Archives with me for me to show him certain unpublished materials. I gather then the experience was somewhat frightening because he referred me to ACLU counsel who would aid me if the FBI came after me. I lost my wallet and now do not recall that lawyer's name. (The ACLU then never responded to my request that it provide assistance in what is now known as FOIA matters. The law was not yet effective when I made the request.)

Rather than using the strong-arm means Mr. Isbell appears to have envisioned the FBI resorted to the most vicious fabrications relating to my wife and me and our associations, as I have learned from extremely limited and long-stonewalled compliance with my PA requests. Like converting religious gatherings into celebrations of the Russian revolution and making widespread distributions, from the President down. And having me conspiring with J.B. Stoner to defame the FBI when in 1969 I gave the Department accurate representations of what we now know as the FBI's Cointelpro operations and specifically of the nature now in the papers over the Informant Rose.

I am not loved by either the FBI or the committee, having rather effectively exposed both. It is I, not some imaginary CIA operation of which Mark Lane prates, who provided the Washington Post and the New York Times with the accurate information regarding what these new McCarthyites were up to. This was not easy for me because I was the first, in early 1965, to call for a Congressional investigation. I believe it is my exposures that drove the committee into star chambers which it now pretends are to protect the innocent. (While it leaks.)

Mr. Lesar referred to Mr. LaPrade. Whether in connection with Mr. Lesar's letter or for other purpose you may want to know that I have FBI records relating to Mr. LaPrade. Not in protecting us all from terrorists. He was part of the extensive FBI operations against Dr. King when he was ASAC in Milwaukee and was in charge of the surveillances. I am without doubt that he was in charge of black-bag jobs against the Ray family when he was SAC in St. Louis, from the records I have. When none of the family would "co-operate" with the FBI, which meant say what it wanted to hear, it sought to force State prosecutions. I have these records also.

cc: Jim Lesar

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg